



# King William County Public Schools

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Dear Colleague:

I hope you are enjoying the time off and the well-deserved rest and relaxation. Our chosen career requires much from us everyday, and time away becomes essential to replenishment and rejuvenation. Time with family and friends is a necessity that brings clarity and perspective, and anchors our thoughts and intentions around our core beliefs.

We begin this year again with our sights focused on our purpose of high levels of student learning. We are blessed to have an outstanding School Board and professional staff, dedicated to the well-being of the children, that continue to want the best for all students as they meet the expectations as set forth by the community we serve. To accomplish this, we should continue to ratchet up the learning experiences of our students to afford them the many opportunities that can be made available to ensure their success.

At convocation we are pleased to have Jim Knight, the author of *Instructional Coaching: A Partnership Approach to Improving Instruction*, and *Coaching Classroom Management*, written with Randy Sprick, Wendy Reinke, and Tricia McKale. He has spent more than a decade studying instructional coaching. His articles on instructional coaching have been included in publications, such as *The Journal of Staff Development*, *Principal Leadership*, *The School Administrator*, and *Teachers Teaching Teachers*. Dr. Knight is frequently asked to guide professional learning for instructional coaches and has presented and consulted in more than forty states, most Canadian provinces, and in Japan. He has also won several university teaching, innovation, and service awards. We look forward to having Dr. Knight with us on August 29.

Many of you participated in professional development activities and course work this summer for teachers and administrators, which should enhance our educational program this year. Hopefully these staff development programs can be continued during the years ahead in spite of the tight economy which has curtailed spending. Please know that we greatly appreciate the direction and leadership of our School Board throughout this time.

I wish for each of you a restful remainder of summer vacation.

Sincerely,

Mark R. Jones  
Division Superintendent